

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

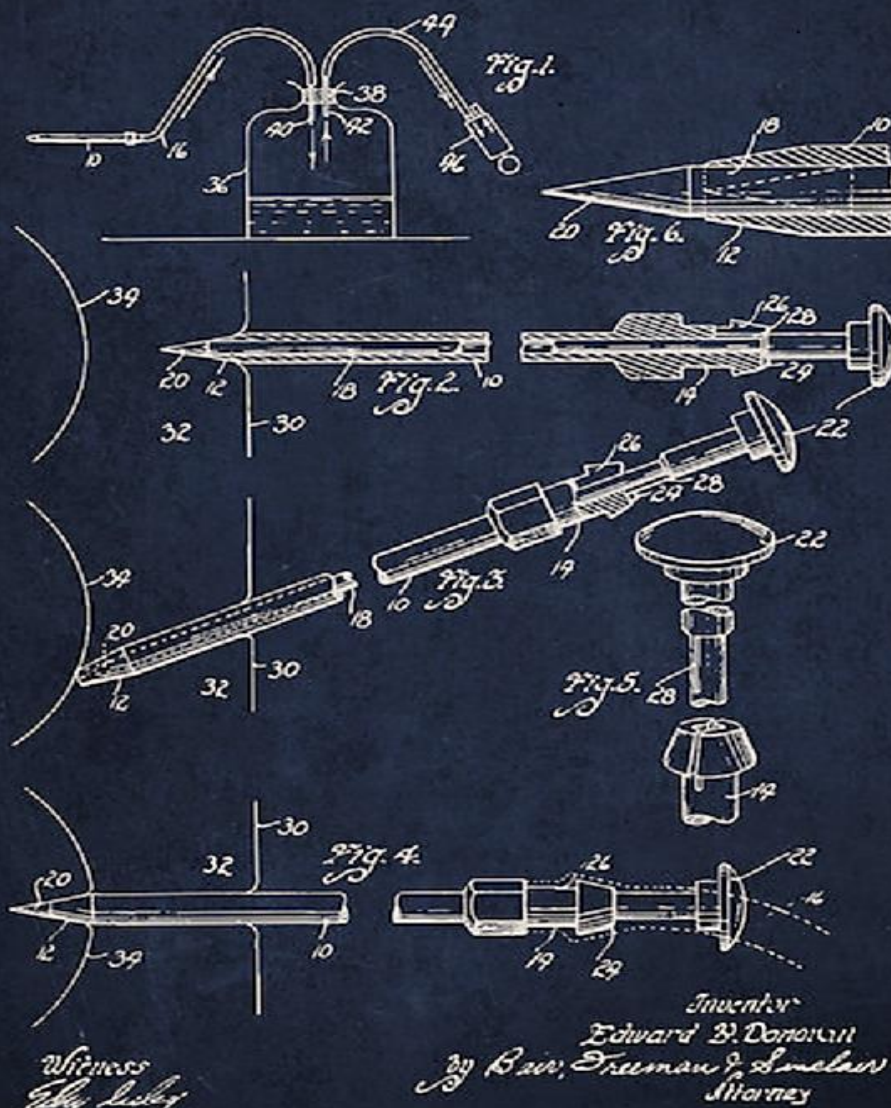
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[www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)



## HEARTH TROCAR

EDWARD B. DONOVAN  
PATENTED DEC 8, 1931  
NO. 1,835,287



From: *Hearth Trocar*. Patented by Edward B. Donovan on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1931. U.S. Patents Bureau, Patent no. 1,835,837.

# Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology - ICOHTEC

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I. 45 <sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Annual Meeting in Saint-Étienne, 2018 – <b>Deadline Extended to February 19<sup>th</sup></b>	p. 2
I.I Call for the ICOHTEC Summer School of 2018 in Saint-Étienne	p. 5
I.II Travel Grants	p. 7
I.III Kranzberg Lecture	p. 10
I.IV ICOHTEC Symposium Session Proposals. 7 Calls for papers	p. 10
II. Books on the History of Science and Technology. <i>Landscapes of Collectivity in the Life Sciences.</i>	p. 16
III. Conference Announcements	p. 17
IV. Summer Schools	p. 17
V. Calls for Papers	p. 19
VI. Jobs, Postdoctoral Positions, and Research Fellowships	p. 27
VII. Join ICOHTEC	p. 32

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## I. 45<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Annual Meeting in Saint-Étienne, 2018

### *Call for Papers and Sessions*

**ICOHTEC Symposium -- Saint-Étienne, France -- 17 to 21 July 2018**

**Deadline for proposals extended to February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**The International Committee for the History of Technology** will hold its 45<sup>th</sup> symposium and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at the Jean Monnet University in the city of Saint-Étienne, France. The general theme of the symposium is **“Technological Drive from Past to Future? 50 years of ICOHTEC.”** Our intention is to inquire into long-term trends in interactions between technology and society, as well as how technologies have influenced utopian and dystopian views of the future.

We aim to examine how the role of technology has changed across history and what characters and trends of technological change historians can help to anticipate in the future. The value of memories of the past for the present and future has been frequently discussed; the German theologian Albert Schweitzer claimed that *“happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory”*, whereas Spanish philosopher George Santayana argued that *“those who do not know history's mistakes are doomed to repeat them.”* The symposium intends to explore whether there is any possibility of solving the tension between history and future. Since ICOHTEC will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this symposium, a special plenary session will reflect on our organization's stand-out contributions to the field over the last fifty years, as well as looking ahead

to explore new topics and approaches. More details on this event will be announced on our website. As usual, the ICOHTEC Programme Committee welcomes papers on a wide range of topics, especially the changing relations between technology and society in the past and future. Session organisers and contributors of individual papers and posters might also consider aligning their proposals with the following non-exhaustive list of sub-themes:

### **Sub-themes**

- 1) Expressions of “technological momentum” in history
- 2) The role of technology in the development of societies and in globalization
- 3) Political authority and the power of technology: shaping technology under the pressures of society
- 4) Regionalism and universalism of technology: can technology be constructed as neutral, independent of its contexts?
- 5) Innovations and risks: relationships and interactions between technology and the environment
- 6) Technology, culture, and landscape: borders and interfaces of natural and artificial
- 7) Playing with technology and playful approaches to technology
- 8) Media, communication and technology: mutual dependencies?
- 9) The significance of technological heritage and material culture for the future
- 10) The beauty of machines: art, design and culture in industry and technology
- 11) Representations of technology and industry in utopias and dystopias, including speculative fiction and popular culture
- 12) Heritage in the centennial commemorations of World War I: industry, technology, and the Great War
- 13) Digitization and computerization: technological trends and social effects

The symposium will cover all historical periods and areas of the globe. We invite submissions of new, original and unpublished work that offer fresh perspectives on the history of technology as well as exploring novel sources and methodologies.

The Programme Committee prefers submissions of coherent session proposals of three to four papers, although individual papers are welcomed. We also encourage poster presentations, which will be exhibited for the duration of the symposium. Each poster will be assigned a short time slot in a special session, during which the presenter will briefly outline its topic and have the opportunity to engage in discussion with delegates. Posters might be a particularly appropriate medium for doctoral students and museum curators as well as all those who want to draw attention to a more focused topics or work-in-progress. Besides these types of proposals, the Committee also encourages proposals in more unconventional formats, for example roundtables on recent important books or research issues, or panel discussions on films or other media related to the history of technology.

### **Proposal Guidelines**

- **INDIVIDUAL PAPER** proposals must include (1) a 200 – 300-word abstract, and (2) a one-page biographical sketch. Abstracts should include the author’s name and email address, a short descriptive title of the paper, a concise statement of the thesis, a brief discussion of the sources, and a summary of the major conclusions. Presentations should be compact analytical summaries of

the author's research. Oral presentations will be of 15-20 minutes duration, depending on the exactly composition of the panel, which is roughly equivalent to 5-7 double-spaced typed pages. Contributors are encouraged to submit full-length versions of their papers after the symposium for consideration by ICOHTEC's peer-reviewed journal *ICON* by 1 December 2018.

- **SESSION** proposals must include (1) a 300 – 400 word abstract of the session with a list of proposed papers and a suggested chairperson; (2) 200 – 300 word abstracts for each paper, and (3) a one-page biographical sketch for each contributor and chairperson. Sessions should consist of three or four speakers, or three speakers and one commentator. It is possible to propose several related sessions, which can take place over more than one day. The Programme Committee reserves the right to relocate papers to different sessions and to add papers to sessions. We also encourage roundtable proposals and other non-traditional session formats.

- **POSTER** proposals must include (1) a 200 – 300-word abstract, and (2) a one-page biographical sketch. Abstracts should include the author's name and email address, a short descriptive title, a concise statement of the thesis, a brief discussion of the sources, and a summary of the major conclusions.

The official languages to present in ICOHTEC Meetings are English, French, German, Russian or Spanish **but papers, sessions and poster proposals must be submitted in English.**

**Note:** Membership of ICOHTEC is not required to participate in the symposium but members will pay a reduced registration fee. We especially encourage graduate students and early career scholars to participate in the symposium and submit their proposals. A limited number of **travel grants** will be available for Ph.D. candidates and young researchers, who are giving papers at the Symposium.

### **Submission of proposals**

All proposals (paper, sessions, and posters) must be submitted electronically through our website <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html>. The online submission system will remain open until **19 February 2018**, which marks the deadline for all categories of contribution. On this website, you will also find all necessary instructions and guidelines on how to prepare and submit a proposal as well as all kind of information related to the event, such as travel grants announcements, calls for panellists to planned sessions, programme of the symposium, suggestions on accommodation and travel arrangements etc. Should you have any queries on the submission procedure or programme, please contact Timo Myllyntaus, the Chair of the Programme Committee, via email ([timmyl@utu.fi](mailto:timmyl@utu.fi)) or by post:

## I.I Call for the ICOHTEC Summer School of 2018 in Saint-Étienne

<b>Theme</b>	<i>Does Technology drive History? Theoretical Concepts and Historical Examples</i>
<b>Target participants</b>	PhD students and recent post-doctoral researchers Early career researcher and professionals with a subject-relevant academic background
<b>Dates</b>	Mon 16 July to Tue 17 July, 2017 (Part 1) Wed 18 to Sat 21 July, 2017 (Part 2)
<b>Venue</b>	MRASH ( <i>Hall of the Rhône-Alpes House of Humanities</i> ), Jean Monnet University, Saint-Étienne, France
<b>Most relevant disciplines</b>	-History of Technology                      -History of Science -Economic and Social History           -Environmental History
<b>Fees</b>	Fee of the Summer school only:              50 Euro (After 31 May: 60 €) Fee of Summer school & Symposium:              125 Euro (After 31 May: 155 €)  <i>These ICOHTEC's registration fees include participation services, lunches and pass for local public transportation. Students will be lodged at the Jean Monnet University's Halls of Residence at their own cost (34 euro/night). A limited number of ICOHTEC travel grants will be available for Summer School participants and they cover part of travel costs from regions outside France.</i>
<b>Admission</b>	<b>Applications will be accepted by email until 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The results of selection will be announced to the applicants by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.</b>

### Lecturers

#### Francesca Bray

Professor of Social Anthropology

University of Edinburgh, UK

Past President, Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)

#### Michel Cotte

Emeritus professor of the History of Technology

Centre François Viète

University of Nantes, France

President of the French Society of the History of Science and Technology

David Edgerton

Hans Rausing Professor of the History of Science and Technology  
Professor of Modern British History  
Department of History  
King's College London, UK

### **Objectives**

The Second ICOHTEC Summer School will combine the 45th ICOHTEC Symposium with a two-day intensive seminar course geared to PhD students and young post-doctoral scholars. The Summer School brings together conventional seminars and the participation in the ICOHTEC Symposium.

The topic of the ICOHTEC Summer School is **"Does Technology drive History? Theoretical Concepts and Historical Examples."** It aims at taking stock of the current state of theoretical approaches in the history of technology such as technological determinism, Large Technological Systems (LTS), Social Construction of Technology (SCOT), Actor Network Theory (ANT) and cultural history or concepts of a transnational and global history of technology. The Summer School aims to approach its theme open-mindedly and multidisciplinary.

The Summer School aim to deal with responding to the following questions:

- How are technology and social change interconnected?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the above mentioned theoretical concepts as heuristic and analytical tools for investigating diverse issues in the history of technology?
- Is it feasible and beneficial to combine some of those concepts in the same research project?
- What could new and original approaches to the history of technology look like?

### **Description**

The ICOHTEC Summer School consists of two parts:

- **Part 1. Interactive discussion seminars.** Objectives of the School include discussions of: daily lectures, students' research papers distributed in advance, and appropriate methodological and theoretical approaches to the research themes under examination. Expert tutors will moderate these discussions in small groups. A joint feedback colloquium will end the School.

- **Part 2. Active attendance in the ICOHTEC Symposium.** Students of the Summer School are expected to participate in the ICOHTEC Symposium and its scientific sessions according to their personal tailor-made schedules. All students who complete the programme will receive an attendance certificate.

### **For whom is the programme?**

- Ph.D. students with a subject-appropriate academic background.
- Post-doctoral researchers with a subject-appropriate academic background

### **Participants are expected to**

- be able to speak, read and write in English.



- undertake preparatory reading in advance of the programme.
- attend all lectures and seminar sessions.
- be actively engaged with the topics of the sessions.
- attend the ICOHTEC 2018 Symposium and present a paper there as a single or co-author.
- submit a final assignment of 2,000-2,500 words on one of the topics discussed in the Summer School within six weeks after the summer school.

### **Application for this course**

- Deadline for application: **5 March, 2018.**
- Applicants must send the following data by email file attachments to Hans-Joachim Braun [hjbraun@hsu-hh.de](mailto:hjbraun@hsu-hh.de):
  - 1) A brief one-page cv, which must include the main personal data, academic training and career, selected publications and e-mail for further contact.
  - 2) A short statement of purpose (350-400 words) detailing your academic reasons for wishing to attend the summer school. This should include your expectations what you hope to get out of the summer school and its education, and what you are likely to contribute to the intellectual life of the summer school. This may include details of history, political or social science courses you have previously taken, or the relevance of the summer school to your present course of study or professional development. If you are preparing a thesis or research paper at the moment, please write a brief description of it. Include also the title of your possible paper submission to the ICOHTEC Symposium, which follows the Summer School (Further information: [icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html](http://icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html)).
  - 3) A letter of recommendation by your teacher or supervisor, referring to your application to the ICOHTEC Summer School.

The subject line of the email should be "Summer School Application" and in the titles of your file attachments mark your surname first and then the title of the file (e.g. Smith\_CV). Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered. You will receive a response by **31 March 2018.**

### **Members of the Summer School Committee:**

Hans-Joachim Braun (chair), Germany  
 Maria Elvira Callapez, Portugal  
 Michel Cotte, France  
 Timo Myllyntaus, Finland  
 Klaus Staubermann, UK

## **I.2 Travel Grants**

The 45th annual symposium will be held in Jean Monnet University, southeastern France, on 17-21 July 2018, with the general theme Technological Drive from Past to Future? 50 years of ICOHTEC. We offer a limited number of grants to help defray some of the expenses of attending the symposium. The Grants will be made available largely thanks to a generous support from Juanelo Turriano Foundation and the Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST).

### **Who is eligible?**

In 2018, the ICOHTEC Travel Grants will be awarded in two categories:

- **Up to 350 Euro each** – eligible for applying are graduates, post-graduates and young scholars whose papers have been accepted in our 2018 Symposium. Special preference will be given to participants from low-income countries, who are not able to receive sufficient financial support elsewhere. These travel grants are not intended to cover the full costs of attending the Symposium, and may be used to bus/train/ferry/flight tickets, lodging and/or registration fee.

- **Up to 200 Euro each** – eligible for applying are the students and early career researchers participating in the ICOHTEC Summer School in St-Étienne. Students and researchers whose papers have also been accepted to the scientific programme of our 2018 Symposium, following immediately the Summer School, are eligible for the Travel Grant of up to 350 Euro each.

### **How do I apply?**

The Travel Grant Application Form (see on the back or consult [www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)) must be filled in, and sent by 16 April 2018 as an e-mail attachment to Sławomir Łotysz, the Chair of the Travel Grant Committee at [s.lotysz@gmail.com](mailto:s.lotysz@gmail.com). In addition to the information provided in the application form, please attach a short CV or bio, as well as an appropriate document proving your status (a scan of your student's ID or supervisor's/professor's letter if applicable). The reimbursement will be made after the accepted paper is presented in person by the Grantee at the Symposium. Please, note that all money transfers can be made only after the symposium. In addition, make sure you saved your original tickets and invoices to hand them over to the Treasurer at the meeting.

### **What is the time schedule?**

The completed application (next page), along with applicable attachments, should be submitted by e-mail by Monday **16 April**. The grants will be announced by **mid-May 2018**.

Best Regards

Sławomir Łotysz

President & Chair of the Travel Grant Committee



**45<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC SYMPOSIUM, SAINT-ÉTIENNE, FRANCE.**

**APPLICATION FORM**

First and last name:		
Postal address:		
E-mail address:		
Your status (mark right options):	graduate student/post-doc/independent young scholar/other (explain)	
	member of ICOHTEC: yes/no	male/female
Institutional affiliation:		

**The estimated expenses (in euro):**

Travel	
Registration fee	
Accommodation costs	
Total	
Requested (max 200 or 350 € - check your eligibility in the announcement)	

**Payment information:**

Personal address (which you gave in your bank)	
Bank name :	
Bank address (typically it is not your branch, but a headquarter – please ask in your bank):	
SWIFT code :	
Account number in international format (typically called IBAN) :	

NOTE: If you are unable to accept international bank transfer, cash payment can be arranged for you at the symposium. Please ask the Chair of the Travel Grant for details.

**Professional activities at symposium (other than presenting paper or poster):**

- Student accepted to the Summer School (if yes, type the title of your presentations):
  
- Chairing a session (if yes, please give the title):

### **I.3 Kranzberg Lecture**

Robert Bud will deliver the Kranzberg Lecture in Saint-Étienne ICOHTEC Symposium, 17 July 2018:

#### **Conceptual history, branding and technology as part of the public sphere**

This paper reflects on the consequences for our discipline of taking seriously a large audience of citizens experienced in interpreting and worrying about rich technological brands, as an audience for our research and writing. Such a historiography requires us to focus on the fluid cultural categories of the public sphere as legacies of the past, to bear in mind the lessons of conceptual history and to follow its emphasis on the cumulation of meanings. To illustrate the implications, the presentation reflects on the meaning of the concept of “technology” itself in England. Such meanings of course need not be merely practical. They can serve too as measures of time. And indeed technology, more than any other outcome of human culture, has been used to calibrate the metronome of progress. Drawing on the presentation of technology in museums early in the twentieth century the paper reflects on how research on the history of technology can better inform talk about technology.

#### **Bio of 2018 Kranzberg Lecturer**



Robert Bud is Research Keeper at the Science Museum in London. As well as major permanent exhibits, he has been responsible for developing websites interpreting large collections, “Ingenious”, “Making the Modern World” and “Brought to Life” and acted as an advisor for the site, “Inventing Europe” of the Tensions of Europe network of which he was a founding member. He is a past winner of the Bunge Prize awarded by the German Chemical and Physical Societies, and the holder of the Sarton Medal and Sarton Professorship at the University of Ghent. Holder of a doctorate in the History and Sociology of Science from the University of Pennsylvania, he has published extensively on the histories of applied science, chemistry, and biotechnology, including his books *The Uses of Life: A History of Biotechnology* (1993) and *Penicillin: Triumph and Tragedy* (2007). His current research is on the history of the concept of “applied science” in the public sphere, over two centuries and he is also part of the international HoNESt project, which seeks to understand the changing engagement of societies with nuclear energy, and how the nuclear energy sector has engaged with societies.

### **1.4 Session Proposals: 7 Calls for papers**

#### **1) Before Snowden. Technology as a tool of surveillance and intelligence gathering in the 20th century.**

Organizer: Mirosław Sikora, [miroslaw.sikora@ipn.gov.pl](mailto:miroslaw.sikora@ipn.gov.pl) or [miroslaw.sikora@yandex.com](mailto:miroslaw.sikora@yandex.com)

Deadline for proposals' submission: **18 February 2018**

In 2013 young but already experienced and promising CIA employee and NSA contractor disclosed to the global public (via media) his classified knowledge about US government's surveillance on

citizens over the past years. The implementation of those clandestine measures had been indeed legally justified as a part of the counter-terrorism policy of security and intelligence authorities. Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the Snowden- Affair was massive involvement of high-tech equipment and solutions that made it possible for the US government to get insight into the most sensitive (private) areas of its citizen's activity.

However, eavesdropping, signal intelligence and cables intercepting, imaginary intelligence and internet espionage was and is applied by the security services worldwide not only against ordinary people, but also against state institution. The surveillance on highest German authorities and other allied governments around the world, that was revealed recently, is just another proof of total dimension of intelligence collection by US spy-agencies nowadays. Though the capabilities of Russian and Chinese counterparts gave way to America or UK, these countries (as well as other small ones) are running extensive intelligence operations taking advantage of modern technology. Chinese hackers or Russian "trolls" are examples of confrontation in the IT-battlefield. Moreover chemistry and biology emerge as tools of security apparatus. The poisoning of FSB-defector Alexander Litvinenko in 2006 with radioactive polonium-210 is the best example.

However, the technology was a tool of intelligence, espionage and surveillance since the beginning of modern states dating back to the 18th century. First professional security services in France and Great Britain, USA and Russian Empire established in the turn of 19th and 20th centuries involved technical branches responsible for mapping, data storage and processing, miniaturized spy-cameras and weapons. The methods and tactics of using that equipment were developed simultaneously. Furthermore, along with the famous Kevin Mitnick case, the mutual spying among the multinationals competing for global markets became obvious.

The session aims at putting together at least some fragments of studies on the "high-tech in context of security". It focuses on the 20<sup>th</sup> century, for it was the time when modern security apparatus was formed (already before the First World War) and expanded enormously (throughout the Cold War).

The following aspects are going to be discussed in particular:

1. The origins of mechanized and automated data processing and data bases for the internal use of state security apparatus in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
2. Counterintelligence and the development of audiovisual surveillance during the Cold War in the West and in the East.
3. Photography and documents counterfeiting and production of fake identities as crucial area of interests for the intelligence agencies.
4. Computer and its role in data transfer, processing, as well as encoding, decoding, code breaking (GCHQ, NSA, FAPSI and the rest).
5. Safeguard providing with help of biometrics.
6. Biotechnology in the service of intelligence (collecting of biological profiles etc.).
7. FBI and KGB. Security culture in the West and in the East during the Cold War.
8. Technology and political police's surveillance on societies in Warsaw Pact countries.
9. "Venona", U-2 and others – operations that took advantage of high-tech.
10. Developing countries as fields of high-tech struggle of intelligence services.
11. Technology in use of opposition movements in communist bloc in 70s-80s.
12. Avoiding detection. Technology applied by terrorist organizations in Western Europe in 70s-90s.
13. Public awareness of being constantly observed.

14. Overwhelming technological possibilities as trigger for paranoia disorders among members of society.
15. High-tech surveillance leaks and scandals in media coverage throughout the century.

## **2) The conquest of hydraulic power and its place in the history of mankind**

Organizer: Alexandre HERLEA, [alexandre.herlea@wanadoo.fr](mailto:alexandre.herlea@wanadoo.fr)

Proposals for papers, an abstract of 200 – 300 words and a one-page CV should be submitted by **February 19** 2018 electronically through <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html>.

In a congress of the ICOHTEC in Saint-Etienne - birthplace of the inventor and industrialist Benoît Fourneyron, designer and director of the first hydraulic turbine, seat of the Ecole des Mines where mathematician Claude Burdin, the creator of the word "turbine" taught - it is inconceivable that a session should not be dedicated to hydraulic energy.

It was at the dawn of the first millennium that the first engine, designed by man, capable of making usable on the spot a non-usable energy, the hydraulic wheel, was born. Since hydraulic power has played, and continue to do so, a leading role among the energies used by man. Hydraulic motors have been constantly improved and several categories were created, so that they best correspond to the characteristics of the energy sources they use. The creation of the hydraulic turbine, in 1827, was undoubtedly the most significant development.

Of course, on the history of hydraulic energy a lot has been written and the main steps have been clearly defined, but it remains always details to bring, details to make known, conclusions to be reviewed. These as well at the levels of the engines themselves as concerning the use and construction of the sources, such as dams and accumulation lakes. The use of these engines in industry, their role in economy, the close technical-economic interdependence that these highlight, are other aspects to be analyzed, dealt with. As are the science and technology relationships in the field of hydraulic energy. These were among the first to be carefully studied and these studies have played a pioneering role in the analysis of science – technology relationships. But the field is still wide open. The study of the history of hydraulic energy and its industry therefore implies a systemic approach which concerns the evolution of hydraulic energy within the technical system, especially in its relations with other energies used by men (thermal, nuclear, other renewable energies) as well as its relations of interdependence with other systems: economic, socio-political, scientific knowledge, ideologies and mentalities, etc. But a prospective look is also welcome, the extrapolation of past developments being a major approach in the technological forecasting, which we need so much today, when the mankind is facing an environmental crisis.

## **2) (In French) La conquête de l'énergie hydraulique et sa place dans l'histoire de l'humanité**

Organizer: Alexandre HERLEA, [alexandre.herlea@wanadoo.fr](mailto:alexandre.herlea@wanadoo.fr)

Dans un congrès de l'ICOHTEC à Saint-Etienne - lieu de naissance de l'inventeur et industriel Benoît Fourneyron, concepteur et réalisateur de la première turbine hydraulique, siège de l'Ecole des Mines où a enseigné le mathématicien Claude Burdin, créateur du mot « turbine » - il est inconcevable qu'une session ne soit pas consacrée à l'énergie hydraulique.

C'est à l'aube du premier millénaire que le premier moteur, conçu par l'homme, capable de rendre utilisable sur place une énergie non utilisable telle quelle, la roue hydraulique, a vu le jour. Depuis l'énergie hydraulique a joué, et continue de le faire, un rôle de premier plan parmi les énergies utilisées par l'homme. Les moteurs hydrauliques ont été sans cesse améliorés et plusieurs catégories ont été créées, afin qu'ils correspondent au mieux aux caractéristiques des sources d'énergie qu'ils utilisent. La création de la turbine hydraulique, en 1827, fut sans doute le perfectionnement le plus significatif.

Certes, sur l'histoire de l'énergie hydraulique on a beaucoup écrit et les grandes étapes ont été clairement définies, mais il reste toujours des précisions à apporter, des détails à faire connaître, des conclusions à revoir. Ceux-ci aussi bien aux niveaux des moteurs eux-mêmes que de l'utilisation et de la construction des sources, tels les barrages et lacs d'accumulation. L'utilisation de ces moteurs dans l'industrie, leur rôle dans l'économie, l'étroite interdépendance technique – économie que ceux-ci mettent en évidence, sont d'autres aspects à être analysés, traités. Comme sont les relations science – technique dans le domaine de l'énergie hydraulique ; celles-ci ont été parmi les premières à être attentivement étudiées et ces études ont joué un rôle pionnier dans l'analyse des relations sciences – technique. Le champs reste pourtant encore largement ouvert.

L'étude de l'histoire de l'énergie hydraulique et de son industrie implique donc une approche systémique qui concerne aussi bien l'évolution de l'énergie hydraulique à l'intérieur du système technique, notamment dans ses relations avec les autres énergies utilisées par l'homme (thermique, nucléaire, autres énergies renouvelables) que dans ses relations d'interdépendance avec les autres systèmes : économique, socio-politique, des connaissances scientifiques, des idéologies et mentalités, etc.

Mais un regard prospectif est aussi le bienvenu, l'extrapolation des évolutions passées étant une principale approche dans la prévision technologique, dont nous avons tellement besoin aujourd'hui, en pleine crise de l'environnement.

**3) Turns in the Energy Supply: Past, Present and Future.** Call for Papers to an Energy Session. Sub-theme: Political authority and the power of technology: shaping technology under the pressures of society.

Several times in history, there have happened major shifts in the energy supply. Generally, they have been related to constraints and scarcities of energy resources or problems in their utilisation as well as needs of the economy. When completed, these shifts have had widespread impacts on entire society. At the moment, the humanity is preparing to avert the global warming by reforming the energy supply, which means profound changes in producing and consuming energy. Consequences of these changes tend to cause anxiety. There is need to know how societies earlier managed to cope with comparable changes. The present change has been called “energy transition”, which sounds a nice and easy swap. The session aims to elaborate by various case studies what wide-scale turns in the energy supply may mean in the different spheres of society.

Please, submit your paper proposal with a 200 – 300 word abstract and one-page bio for the session Turns in the Energy Supply: Past, Present and Future to be held in the ICOHTEC symposium in Saint-

Étienne by sending it with these appendices to Timo Myllyntaus, [moni.mylly@gmail.com](mailto:moni.mylly@gmail.com), no later than **18 January 2018**.

#### **4) Railways in Making Modern Societies.** Call for Papers to the Railway History Session

Railways have not served only transporters of passengers and freight. They have at the same time been a result of the changing society and the factor moulding the bases of society. Accordingly, they have had a great impact on shaping society and creating new cultures. It has been claimed that in the 19th century, railways helped unifying divided states, such as Germany and Italy, establishing the position of civil engineers as a profession, expanding the distribution of newspapers and promoting the rest of the printing industry.

This session will examine the railways as a large technological system and critical infrastructure, which was constructed in the interaction with building the modern state apparatus. Consequently, the aim is to study railways and society in the mutual interface. This kind of analysis can be carried out by means of case studies elaborating phenomena in variable circumstances. A clear research question and an explicit comparison of two or more case studies may deepen the research results.

For a session proposal, we need 3-4 paper abstracts and a discussant per one 90-minute time slot. Our session proposal can include 1 – 4 time slots. Paper proposals can deal with theme related to railways and/or traveling by trains in the past, present or future. They can be authored and presented by one or several scholars. In ICOHTEC symposia, each author can present personally only one paper but can co-author several papers, and also act as a discussant and chair in several sessions. Please, send your 200 – 300-word abstract and one-page bio/cv to Timo Myllyntaus ([moni.mylly@gmail.com](mailto:moni.mylly@gmail.com)) by 18 January 2018.

#### **5) West - East Transfer of Technology During the Cold War.** Call for Papers to Technology Transfer Session. Organizer: ICOHTEC Program Committee. Contact: Timo Myllyntaus, [moni.mylly@gmail.com](mailto:moni.mylly@gmail.com)

The history of transferring knowledge and technology between East and West, socialist and capitalist, big and small states has attracted many researchers. Current historiography proposes new sources and approaches studying various forms of transfer on different levels, emphasizing not only conventional trade flows from West to East, but vice versa as well as other more or less unofficial forms of technology mobility. They include communication between scientists, attending exhibitions and conferences as well as copying patented innovations and industrial espionage among other channels of transfer, which demonstrate the permeability of geo-graphical, state, cultural, political, social, and institutional borders. This permeability was also attested during the Cold War, results of which demonstrate the significance of East and West transfers and as Karen Freeze puts it in her article on Czechoslovak theatre technologies and their move west-ward: “we may conclude that the Iron Curtain was more permeable than previously thought”. Consequently, technology transfer opens a wide and challenging field of research. Apart explaining movements

and exchange of technologies, transfers explicate social, political and cultural transformations they entail and serve for. They also help explain communication of different actors on governmental, institutional, company and individual levels.

Proposals for papers, an abstract of 200 – 300 words and a one-page CV should be submitted by February 19 2018 electronically through <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2018.html>.

## **6) Plastics, Emotions and Consumer Society**

Synthetic polymeric materials and their precursors comprising moulding materials (plastics), rubbers, fibres, lacquers and adhesives, generate quite different feelings and opinions from their first onset. On the one hand, since their emergence, especially in World War I, they were often recognised as cheap mass products, partially replacing valuable or rare materials ('Ersatzstoffe'). On the other hand, they took over already from the beginning their fundamental role as promoters of most important technical developments such as e. g. the electrical industry. Without the new fantastic materials, the modern civilising and social progress of mankind would not have been possible. Between these fixed-points, no other group of substances has been provoked such strong emotions of refusal and approval, hate and love as synthetic polymeric materials.

Today, synthetic plastics (moulding materials), rubbers, fibres, lacquers and adhesives are ubiquitous. Their effect on consumer societies is linked with the technical progress but also with increasing environmental impacts. Plastics in all its variations play a tremendous role in our daily consumer life, in high-tech developments but also in environmental situations, all causing strong emotions.

How people are socially connected with synthetic polymeric materials? And why do they respond in such different perceptions?

In this panel, we intend to explore different point of views of the relationship between society and those synthetic materials.

We welcome proposals for papers which may concern with, but are not limited to:

1. illustrating the historic development of social 'attraction' and 'repulsion' of synthetic polymeric materials and precursors,
2. analysing the role of plastics in consumer societies,
3. discussing consumer's product choices in a historical perspective,
4. investigating the circumstances of creating emotional effects on these materials,
5. investigating how emotions configure narratives and discussions on synthetic polymeric materials.

**Please send your abstract of up to 300 words and one page CV until 18 February 2018 to:**

- Maria Elvira Callapez, CIUHCT- Faculdade Ciências Universidade Lisboa, (mariaelviraacallapez@gmail.com),
- Guenter Lattermann, German Society for Plastics History, (guenter.lattermann@uni-bayreuth.de), and
- Stefan Poser, Helmut Schmidt Universitaet, Hamburg, (poser@hsu-hh.de).



## 7) Tourism – what can History of Technology Contribute?

CfP of a Session – 45th Symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC, St Étienne, France, 17 – 21 July 2018

Organizer: Stefan Poser, Helmut Schmidt Universität, Hamburg, Germany

Tourism became a typical leisure activity of members of consumer societies during the second half of the 20th century. Meanwhile tourism is one of the most important sectors of the economy and is of global occurrence. Millions of people take part in a temporarily migration of some weeks – sometimes observed as barbarian invasion by inhabitants of tourist regions. Such a development of tourism would have been impossible without the transfer of concepts of mass production to the field of tourism: booking, traveling, and dwelling – technology is involved deeply in all these activities. Indeed cities are growing especially for tourism. What about the technical requirements and the environmental impacts of such developments? In which way were experiences of travelling shaped by technology and by the built environment? What about the role of technology as tourist attraction? If technical artefacts become attractive sites for tourists – what does this say about the social impact of technology?

The aim of the session is to discuss the direct impact of technology on tourism as well as the role of old and new technology as tourist attraction. Case studies are welcome as well as methodological contributions.

If you want to contribute, please send your abstract of up to 300 words and a one page CV until **18 February 2018** to [poser@hsu-hh.de](mailto:poser@hsu-hh.de)

## II. Books on the History of Science and Technology. *Landscapes of Collectivity in the Life Sciences.*

*Landscapes of Collectivity in the Life Sciences*, edited by Snait B. Gissis, Ehud Lamm, and Ayelet Shavit. The Vienna Series in Theoretical Biology, MIT Press may be of interest to some members, 2017.

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/landscapes-collectivity-life-sciences>

The book explores contemporary concerns regarding methodological individualism when used in the various contexts of the life sciences. It addresses conceptual problems regarding individuals and their relation to and dependence on the collectivities they are part of and examines innovative viewpoints, grounded in specific scientific projects that question the present descriptions and understanding.

It offers new conceptualizations that challenge the seemingly accepted notions of biological individuality. The book is structured so that fruitful and generative disciplinary interactions can take place among researchers and scholars who study biological questions using recent notions and models of collectivity to describe and explain sociality, cooperation, generative interactions, symbiosis, emergent phenomena, normativity, collective and individual memory, organisms-environment interactions, social learning from a biological perspective, and other allied subjects.

It does so by deploying essential explanatory tools that transcend the classical toolkit of methodological individualism. Examples range from social organization in social insects, the

ecological developmental biology of symbiosis, ecological and developmental perspectives on the immune system, modes of communication, motion and patterns of behavior in diverse life forms, the role of social institutions and cultural dynamics in human evolution, units and levels of selection, evolutionary transitions in individuality, and consensus and incommensurability in academic institutions and the psychological basis for social norms. The book includes a section on holobionts and the hologenome theory and a special memorial article on the work of Eshel Ben-Jacob authored by Herbert Levine.

#### Contributors

Oren Bader, John Beatty, Dinah R. Davison, Daniel Dor, Ofer Feinerman, Raghavendra Gadagkar, Scott F. Gilbert, Snait B. Gissis, Deborah M. Gordon, James Griesemer, Zachariah I. Grochau-Wright, Erik R. Hanschen, Eva Jablonka, Mohit Kumar Jolly, Anat Kolumbus, Ehud Lamm, Herbert Levine, Arnon Levy, Xue-Fei Li, Elisabeth A. Lloyd, Yael Lubin, Eva Maria Luef, Ehud Meron, Richard E. Michod, Samir Okasha, Simone Pika, Joan Roughgarden, Eugene Rosenberg, Ayelet Shavit, Yael Silver, Alfred I. Tauber, Ilana Zilber-Rosenberg

### III. Conference Announcement

**Registration is now open and the conference program now available for “Technologies of Frankenstein, 1818-2018,” to be held 7 – 9 March at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ, USA: <http://frankenstein2018.org/>**

The 200th anniversary year of the first edition of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein: Or, The Modern Prometheus* has drawn worldwide interest in revisiting the novel’s themes. What were those themes and what is their value to us in the early twenty-first century? Mary Shelley was rather vague as to how Victor, a young medical student, managed to reanimate a person cobbled together from parts of corpses. The imagination of the novel’s readership outfitted Victor’s laboratory with the chemical and electrical technologies that brought the creature to life. In what ways have new tools of science and technology served as “elixirs of life” since the age of *Frankenstein*? This conference will explore these themes with a broad interdisciplinary perspective. The conference will open with the Charles E. Robinson Memorial Lecture by Susan Wolfson of Princeton University and will close with a plenary lecture by Rosalind Williams of MIT.

### IV. Summer Schools

**Libori Summer School 2018: The 2nd Libori Summer School on Women Philosophers and Scientists. Paderborn University, July 29-August 3, 2018.**

In these parallel, intensive courses, featuring experts in the specific areas, we challenge the philosophical canon by showing how to incorporate the ideas of women philosophers and scientists via their texts and discuss new issues and topics in the field.

<http://historyofwomenphilosophers.org/libori-summer-school-2018/>

**Call For Application (Deadline: February 15, 2018)**

**THOUGHT EXPERIMENTS - Univie Summer School – Scientific World Conceptions (USS-SWC) July 2–13, 2018**

The Univie Summer School – Scientific World Conceptions (USS-SWC) – until 2014 under the label "Vienna International Summer University" – will be held from July 2 to 13, 2018. The topic of the two-week course is „Thought Experiments“ The main lecturers are *Elke Brendel* (University of Bonn), *James Robert Brown* (University of Toronto) und *John D. Norton* (University of Pittsburgh).

As an international interdisciplinary program, USS SWC brings graduate students in close contact with world-renowned scholars. The program is directed primarily to graduate students and junior researchers in fields related to the annual topic, but the organizers also encourage applications from gifted undergraduates and from people in all stages of their career who wish to broaden their horizon through crossdisciplinary studies of methodological and foundational issues in science. The topic of the two-week course is „**Thought Experiments**“.

Are thought experiments epistemic miracles that enable us to learn about the world merely by reflections from the comfort of our armchairs? Or are they merely picturesque devices for clarifying and revealing to us what we already knew? Or should we conceive of their role in some other way? This summer school will examine thought experiments and their role in science and philosophy. It will consider general problems of principle concerning thought experiments as well as the place and function of exemplar thought experiments largely drawn from physical sciences, but from philosophy and mathematics, as well.

**Application form** and further information: <http://www.univie.ac.at/ivc/SWC/>

**The Main Lecturers:**

**Elke Brendel** (University of Bonn, Germany)

<https://www.philosophie.uni-bonn.de/de/personen/professoren/prof.-dr.-elke-brendel>

**James Robert Brown** (University of Toronto)

<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~jrbrown/index.htm>

**John D. Norton** (University of Pittsburgh)

<http://www.pitt.edu/~jdnorton/jdnorton.html>

USS-SWC operates under the academic supervision of an International Program Committee of distinguished philosophers, historians, and scientists. Its members represent the scientific fields in the scope of USS-SWC, make contact to their home universities and will also support acknowledgement of courses taken by the students. USS-SWC is organised every year by the Institute Vienna Circle of the University of Vienna.

<http://ivc.univie.ac.at/>

<http://www.univie.ac.at/ivc/>

<http://wienerkreis.univie.ac.at/>

## Opening

Venue: Kapelle, Institut für Ethik und Recht in der Medizin, Campus der Universität Wien, Entrance 2.8

Time: Monday, July 2, 2018, 9 a.m.

## Further Information

[www.univie.ac.at/ivc/SWC](http://www.univie.ac.at/ivc/SWC)

Since 2010 USS-SWC is a part of the curriculum of the doctoral programme "The Sciences in Historical, Philosophical and Cultural Contexts" <http://dkplus-sciences-contexts.univie.ac.at/>

There is an exchange programme with Duke University (North Carolina):

<http://international.univie.ac.at/outgoing-students/non-eu-student-exchange-program/kom-2-bewerbungsunterlagen/>

## For further inquiries:

Organisation: Robert Kaller

Institute Vienna Circle

Spitalgasse 2-4, Hof 1, 1090 Wien

[ivc@univie.ac.at](mailto:ivc@univie.ac.at)

Tel. +43-1-4277-46504

Scientific director: Prof. Friedrich Stadler

Head, Institute Vienna Circle

University of Vienna

[www.univie.ac.at/ivc/](http://www.univie.ac.at/ivc/)

[Friedrich.Stadler@univie.ac.at](mailto:Friedrich.Stadler@univie.ac.at)

## V. Calls for Papers

**The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry invites submissions for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Postgraduate Workshop. This year's topic: *"Experience and Experiment: Materiality of (al)chemical texts and objects"*.**

Hosted by: The Royal Institution, London, UK. To be held on: June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

SHAC's annual series of workshops fosters interdisciplinary exchange among graduate students and early career scholars from any field whose work engages with the history of alchemy and chemistry. We welcome abstracts that deal with this year's topic within any historical period and geographical region. Projects pertaining to the material aspects of alchemical and chemical books, instruments, manuscripts, structures, substances, and other creative interpretations of this year's theme are encouraged. Please be prepared to give a short presentation of your work

and provide feedback for other's pre-circulated papers. There will be a keynote presentation from a distinguished professor as well as a guided tour of the chemical texts and objects housed at the Royal Institution.

**Please send a 350 word abstract and CV by 31 March, 2018** to SHAC Student Representative, Megan Piorko, at [studentrep@ambix.org](mailto:studentrep@ambix.org). If applicable, indicate your interest in a competitive travel stipend.

Sponsored by the Royal Institution and the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry.

**Twenty years under the Channel, and beyond? A research and events programme to celebrate 20th Anniversary of the Railway Channel tunnel, by the French Railway Historical Society.** Fifth international conference, Brussels (Belgium),  
Train World, Thursday 24th May 2018

Deadline for submission of abstracts:	15 February 2018
Notification of acceptance	1 March 2018
Deadline for submission of full paper (working paper)	30 April 2018
Deadline for submission of full paper (final paper) for publication	24 June 2018

#### **About the conference**

The Cross-Channel railway link in a post-Brexit Europe / Final Summit is the fifth international conference on the agenda of Twenty years under the Channel, and beyond? the research and events programme led by Rails et histoire.

Contributors to the conference are invited to present research papers deepening questions raised by the previous conferences of the programme in a post-Brexit Europe and to take a part in the open discussion which is one of its main objectives. Invited Speakers include Mr David Azéma, Chairman of Rails et histoire.

#### **Call for Papers**

To celebrate the 20th year in operation of the Cross-Channel fixed link, a programme of scientific events has been launched on 11 June 2014 at the British Embassy in France in the presence of H.E. Sir Peter Ricketts. A round table gathered Mr Jacques Gounon, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of the Eurotunnel Group and Nicolas Petrovic, CEO of Eurostar.

The programme Twenty years under the Channel, and beyond? strongly encourages the dialogue between the academic world, corporations and administrations. Its international conferences bring together leading academic experts, top managers and policy makers interested in transport infrastructure and economic development, with a focus on the Cross-Channel rail infrastructure between London, Paris and Brussels and beyond.

Since its launch, the research programme Twenty years under the Channel, and beyond? held four international events of a series of five on its agenda. Each was dedicated to a theme related to the major engineering projects of the 20th century: the Cross-Channel rail infrastructure system, which changed the geography of Europe.

New Aspects of Transport Geography and Economics was the title of the (I) first international conference held on 19 March 2015 in Lille. The debate shed a new light on the

dramatic changes occurred since 1994 in traffic flows, access and transport services and induced by the opening of the Cross-Channel rail link. The topic of the (II) second conference, which took place in London on 8 December 2015, was Capital and governance in major infrastructure projects. It stimulated a debate on how to best raise capital to fund major infrastructure projects. The significance of their governance was also evidenced at this occasion. The (III) third conference on the agenda (Canterbury, 16 March 2016), aimed at assessing the effects of Cross-Channel rail link operations on the economy of the regions involved over the last two decades: primarily Kent, Nord Pas-de-Calais and Flanders - keeping in mind the longer reach of road freight using the Shuttle and through-train freight services -, but also the three capital cities served by Cross-Channel rail services: London, Paris and Brussels. The (IV) fourth conference, hosted by Brunel University London on 12 October 2016, considered changes in the definition and control of the Anglo-French border and migrations flows through it or retained in Calais area.

The proceedings of the conferences, available at [www.ahicf.com](http://www.ahicf.com) <[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A\\_\\_www.ahicf.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=qKdtBuuu6dQK9MsRUVJ2DPXW6oayO8fu4TfEHS8sGNk&r=o6t8\\_z4yokv9K\\_SPoVvDEQ&m=eB9MoYJcUzajIFpAUA7J2mB7C3Vtt6dUUZckbbMEMxw&s=NrFG095HDJOVSghszrlQU09xMSsGU6xkyZ5ew\\_h4NV0&e=>](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.ahicf.com&d=DwMFaQ&c=qKdtBuuu6dQK9MsRUVJ2DPXW6oayO8fu4TfEHS8sGNk&r=o6t8_z4yokv9K_SPoVvDEQ&m=eB9MoYJcUzajIFpAUA7J2mB7C3Vtt6dUUZckbbMEMxw&s=NrFG095HDJOVSghszrlQU09xMSsGU6xkyZ5ew_h4NV0&e=>)>, provide updated data and analysis on these themes.

## **Topic**

The Cross-Channel railway link is the largest infrastructure project of the 20th Century. The tunnel and connected high-speed lines constitute a pharaonic and successful technical achievement. They carried 400 million passengers since 1994 with the highest safety records.

Beyond the tunnel, the Cross-Channel link is a unique case of interdependent infrastructures, giving shape to a complex transport system including the Channel Tunnel Railway Link (CTRL, now High Speed 1), continental 'LGV's (high speed trains dedicated lines), Eurostar services, High Speed 2 project, not to mention the substantial road access built around the tunnel and further developments in Kent and Northern France regions.

Contributors are invited to submit papers on the following topics, but not limited to them, paying particular attention to changes occurred since the British referendum of 23 June 2016:

### **A. Flows, passengers and freight: lessons for mobility policies**

- \* How can be explained the difference between traffic forecast and realisations?
- \* Has the new technology system of the fixed link overall created traffic or can changes in traffic since 1994 be related to routes concentration, modal split and economic growth?
- \* What is its impact on leisure travel ? (e.g. impact of Shuttle versus sea-crossing, day or weekend trips by Eurostar versus ferry lines)

### **B. Regional economic impact, productivity: lessons for development policies**

- \* Have the regions served by the new railway infrastructure benefited from agglomeration effects? Has overall economic performance increased?
- \* What are the effects on regional labour markets? On the compared attractiveness of the three capitals deserved?

### **C. Institutions, funding and regulation: lessons for major infrastructure projects**

- \* How did public and private finance respectively pay the fixed link system? Beyond the tunnel itself, whose private debt and equity was restructured, various public instruments were mobilised to fund its road access and the railway infrastructure and services to London
- \* Which governance patterns can be identified as best practices for cross-border infrastructure projects?

### **D. « Shaping attitudes in Britain towards Europe » (Margaret Thatcher) or the political nature of a concrete building**

- \* The Cross-Channel fixed link was conceived by the British and French governments in the 1980s to facilitate British integration in Europe. Yet, in a referendum on 23 June 2016, the United Kingdom voted to exit the European Union. How can we explain this evolution?
- \* Is the fixed link a Franco-British endeavour, a European or a national one?
- \* What is the contribution of Belgian railways and economic leaders?

### **E. Lessons for cross-cultural corporations**

- \* The Franco-British structure of Eurotunnel and Eurostar is a challenge for their daily operations. How do they answer to it? Has a multinational corporate culture emerged from their experience?

### **F. Drawing and blurring borders : infrastructure and geopolitics**

- \* Building the Channel Tunnel meant drawing the first land border ever between the UK and France. How did the Canterbury Treaty (1986) and subsequent agreements related to the Channel Tunnel change the definition, perception and control of the border between Britain and the Continent?
- \* To what extent has the railway link influenced cross-border cooperation between other neighbouring countries ?

### **Steering Committee, responsible for the scientific programme of the conference**

- \* Professor Helen Drake, Professor of French and European Studies, Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration, Director, Academy of Diplomacy and International Governance, Chair of the University Association for European Studies, Loughborough University; Research Leader, Economic & Social Research Council Brexit Project, King's College, London; Member of the Scientific Board of Advisers for the Programme Twenty years under the Channel, and beyond?
- \* Professeur Pauline Schnapper, professeur de civilisation britannique contemporaine à l'université Sorbonne-Nouvelle – Paris 3, membre de l'Institut Universitaire de France ; membre du Conseil scientifique du programme Vingt années sous la Manche, et au-delà ?

### **Submission of abstracts, working papers and full papers**

#### **1. Abstracts**

Abstracts may refer to research papers or case studies or first-hand accounts by actors. Abstracts should not exceed 1 000 words (Arial 12 pts, with bibliography) and include: Title of the paper, keywords, Author, Position, Institution as well as a short CV (maximum 150 words)



All abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the scientific program committee based on standard review procedures. Deadline : 15 February 2018.

**The submission of abstracts implies:**

2. Submission of full paper (no poster presentation) by 30 April 2018. Papers will be circulated among the conference committee and attendees only as working papers before the conference. Full paper should not exceed 8 000 words.
3. 15 minutes oral presentation of the paper by the registered presenter in persona, followed by questions.

Finally, authors are invited to submit their final paper for publication in the conference proceedings (digital and print versions). Deadline 24 June 2018.

All communications should be sent to [20yearschannel@ahicf.com](mailto:20yearschannel@ahicf.com)

**The members of the board of scientific advisers for the programme are:**

- \* Christian de Boissieu, Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, Economics, Financial History
- \* Helen Drake, Loughborough University, French and European Studies
- \* Terence R Gourvish, London School of Economics and Political Sciences, Economic History
- \* Émile Quinet, École des Ponts – Paris Tech, Transport Economics
- \* Pauline Schnapper, Université de Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle, British Civilisation
- \* Roger Vickerman, University of Kent, Regional and European Economics, Transport Economics

**Programme management**

- \* Sébastien Barbe, Managing Director, Rails et histoire, Paris
- \* Laurent Bonnaud, PhD in History, Managing Director, Sponte sua sprl, Brussels

**Additional information on the programme**

The 20 years under the Channel, and beyond? programme has three targets:

- \* to ascertain the knowledge available about the Channel Tunnel rail link: experience, expert analyses, written sources, living memory
- \* to gauge achievements at regional, national and European level and explain any disparities by comparison with the project's original assumptions
- \* to draw conclusions for future reference, in particular with regard with funding and operating arrangements for major transport systems.

The target public for the programme is a mixture of transport, town & country planning, finance and economic sector protagonists and scientists, analysts and academics. Communications on the project emphasises subjects likely to strike a chord with the general public: mobility, technology, town & country planning, economics, Europe, regions.

The approach is resolutely multidisciplinary with the aim of prompting exchanges at all levels between the scientific community and players in the field. Particular care is also given to circulating the material on each topic among the various participants, protagonists and scientists, analysts and academics, contributors past and present, for a better and more comprehensive understanding of the Cross-Channel system. It also sets out to foster international exchanges of

views, with a focus on the contrasting perspectives of France and the UK.

On a parallel, there is an oral history campaign, with input from those interviewed being immediately submitted to scientific analysis. The programme is also an opportunity to ensure the conservation of archival collections belonging to both companies and individuals, by making their owners aware of the historical value and importance of the documents in their possession and encouraging them to donate them to archival centres.

Working and communications languages: English, French

**Formats:**

- \* Round Table : professional audience, two hours
- \* Conference-debate on a specific point / historical issue / famous person
- \* One-day conference: specialist public on a specific theme
- \* Seminar: invited guests only, main protagonists and professional audience, on a specific theme
- \* Summit: all interested publics

**Products, deliverables:**

- \* Written synopsis, published book
- \* Oral history archives on line. Bibliography on line.
- \* Internet back-up: podcast of conferences, synopses of talks, references, debate.

**Ninth Workshop on the Philosophy of Information: Information Visualisation**

June 26-27 2018, Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and Arts, Brussels

Website: [www.socphilinfo.org/workshops/wpi9](http://www.socphilinfo.org/workshops/wpi9)

Submissions are invited for the Ninth Workshop on the Philosophy of Information, which will take place at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and Arts in Brussels, 26th–27th of June 2018, just before SPSP 2018 in Ghent.

**Call for Papers**

The theme of the workshop is information visualisation. Our aim is to focus on informational artefacts that encode or convey information in order to try and explain why visualisations can play a certain epistemic role and why certain visualisation are more effective than others. A special attention will be given to the study of how scientists rely on visualisations and how visual artefacts are designed in the sciences. On this basis, we wish to explore convergences between the philosophy of information and the philosophy of science as well as between the formal sciences (logic, computing) and the philosophy of information. We therefore encourage scholars of various disciplinary backgrounds to explore the lines of inquiry we propose.

**Topics of interest include:**

- Extensions and critical evaluations of visualisations as models and as epistemic representations in the context of data-intensive science.

- The epistemology of data and data science in the context of visualisation.
- The logic and epistemology of design in the context of information visualisation.
- Case-studies of specific visualisation-practices or types of visualisations; including drawings, photographs and diagrams.
- Meta-theoretical reflections on the status of theoretical foundations for information visualisation.
- The role of formal methods for the study of visualisation.

### **How to submit an abstract**

Abstracts of 500-1000 words should be submitted no later than **15 March 2018 to socphilinfo@gmail.com**. Submissions will be evaluated by the programme committee, and notification of acceptance will be issued by 15 April 2018.

### **Organisation and contact**

The workshop is organised by the Society for the Philosophy of Information.

For any queries please contact Stefano Canali: [stefano.canali@philos.uni-hannover.de](mailto:stefano.canali@philos.uni-hannover.de).

## **“Science Fiction and Communism”**

**When:** May 26 – 27, 2018

**Where:** American University in Bulgaria (Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria)

**Abstract deadline:** February 23, 2018

**Acceptance responses** will be send out by March 9, 2018

The American University in Bulgaria, in collaboration with Sofia University, is pleased to announce a call for papers for its first conference on “Science Fiction and Communism”. This conference seeks to explore the complex relationship between the communist regime of the past century and science fiction. It also aims to address the cultural, historical, and political contexts of "communist" SF and "communism in SF". We see science fiction not as a mere outcome of state policy or propaganda, but as an active agent in educational strategies, urbanism, and addressing gender issues.

The complex relationship between the communist regime and the broader notion of science fiction has opened a discussion, provoked, on one side, by the widespread presence of futuristic symbolism in the regime’s ideological rhetoric and propaganda, and acknowledging, on another, the immense popularity of science fiction during the Cold war period. This discussion can help us unravel important cultural details about the communist regime.

Science fiction studies have pointed to the reflective nature of the genre. Though it is usually dismissed as a form of escapism, science fiction voices political and social critiques unattainable by other literary forms. At the core of science fiction is its ability to transform and debate any concept, historical event, or notion. And, in so doing, it directly engages the Cold War’s polemics of lifestyle and social order.

Outside of the domain of science fiction, in daily life, in media and architecture, in textbooks and political slogans, the communist regime heavily borrowed futuristic visions and metaphors to establish itself as the bearer of a bright future that had already arrived. Science

fiction became a source of political discourse, a language for communicating those slogans and visions. Further, the popularity of the genre, as well as the high expectations for space programs, fueled science fiction-styled trends beyond communist regimes.

The wide popularity of science fiction literature and films in the time of so-called "developed socialism" is another important theme in this discussion: why did people in the last decades of the communism esteem science fiction so highly? Why did people, in these turbulent years of social changes, care so much for space travel, for alien beings and alien worlds? What connects the popularity of science fiction and the establishment of a generation's identity? How should we think about the precarious balance between the state's agenda with respect to science fiction and the actual outcome and appropriation of science fictional images and ideas? We seek proposals related to representations and discussions of science fiction and communism in literature, film, television, architecture, and so on. The conference is open to all disciplines, approaches, methods, and concepts. We invite submissions and participation from researchers, practitioners, and students. Accepted papers will be invited for publication in a conference volume.

We encourage interdisciplinary and comparative perspectives including, but not limited to the following subjects:

- History of communist/socialist science fiction;
- Science fiction as a socio-political commentary;
- Utopian versus dystopian narratives in the context of the Cold War;
- Comparisons between the "Eastern" and "Western" science fiction visions of "the future";
- Flows of science fiction images, texts and ideas across the Iron curtain;
- Visual megatexts of the future, new technologies and the new man;
- Correlations between communist science fiction and the communist modernization project as an alternative to capitalist modernity.

In addition to individual paper submissions, we especially encourage abstracts for thematic panels and round table proposals. Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) must include an abstract, contact information, and a short CV for each presenter.

**Abstract proposals of up to 500 words and short CVs are due by Friday, February 23, 2018 emailed to Yulia Pechanova at [yulia@aubg.edu](mailto:yulia@aubg.edu).**

We can offer free accommodation to a limited number of guests, please specify should you want to be considered. Otherwise we can assist with local accommodation in small hotels for about 25 USD/night. Participants are responsible for their own traveling arrangements.

There is no registration fee for this conference.

All inquiries can be directed to Yulia Pechanova at [yulia@aubg.edu](mailto:yulia@aubg.edu).

## VI. Jobs, Postdoctoral Positions, and Research Fellowships

### Australia

- 2018 Monash PhD Position in Korean Studies  
Monash University, Faculty of Arts, School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures & Linguistics

### Canada

- Tenure-Track Position - Assistant Professor, Human Information Interaction  
McGill University
- Tenure-Track position in Philosophy - Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Cities  
Concordia University, Department of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts and Science

### Denmark

- Assistant or Associate Professorship in Learning, Management and Organisation  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts
- Assistant or Associate Professorship in the Field Of School Research  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts
- Assistant or Associate Professor of Education in the Field of Language, Mobility and Globalisation  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts
- Assistant or Associate Professorship in the Anthropology of Organisations  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts
- Assistant Professor in Tourism  
Aalborg University, Department of Culture and Global Studies, The Faculty of Humanities
- Associate Professor in Art History and Museology  
Aarhus University, Department of Art History, Aesthetics & Culture and Museology
- Assistant or Associate Professorship in Materiality and Learning Environments  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts
- Assistant or Associate Professorship in Literacy and Technology in Teaching and Learning  
Aarhus University, Danish School of Education (DPU), Faculty of Arts

### Finland

- Academic Vacancies in Education  
University of Tampere
- Post-doctoral Researcher Position in Archaeology  
University of Oulu, Faculty of Humanities
- Doctoral Student Position in Archaeology  
University of Oulu, Faculty of Humanities

### Germany

- Research associate at the German Institute  
University of Münster, Faculty of Philology

## Netherlands

University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Humanities – Conservation & Restoration of Cultural Heritage

- Postdoctoral researcher 'Townscape and Healthscape: Mapping the Sanitary City in Italy'  
University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Humanities – Amsterdam School of Historical Studies

## Norway

- 1 PhD position at the Department of Historical Studies  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Historical Studies
- PhD Candidate Art and Ocean  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim Academy of Fine Art
- University Lecturer in Older History (Before 1750)  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Historical Studies

## Switzerland

- **Faculty Position In The History Of Science And Technology**  
Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale De Lausanne (EPFL)

## United Kingdom

- University Lecturer in American History  
University of Cambridge, Faculty of History
- Mellon Research Fellow in American History (Fixed Term)  
University of Cambridge, Faculty of History
- University Lecturer in Modern British History, since c. 1800  
University of Cambridge, Faculty of History

## United States

- Full-time Instructional Faculty Opportunities in Education  
University of Southern California Rossier School of Education

## Featured Research Position

### **The Ca' Foscari University of Venice, ERC Project “EarlyModernCosmology”**

The ERC research endeavor, “Institutions and Metaphysics of Cosmology in the Epistemic Networks of Seventeenth-Century Europe,” at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice is presently looking for

**Openings: Two Assistant Professors (Non-Tenure Track)** with an outstanding scholarly profile in one of the following research areas of the ERC endeavor:

1. **Early-Modern History of Science:** Cosmology and related sciences in the context of the confessionalization of European knowledge institutions;
2. **Early-Modern Institutional History:** Early-modern institutional history of ideas and/or epistemic webs in their socio-cultural and political entanglements;

3. **Political Epistemology:** Perspectives in historical epistemology on science, religion and ideology.

The positions will also be connected with part-time teaching duties in the history, philosophy and logic of science (one module of 30 hours per year).

**Deadline:** February 19, 2018 at 12:00 (Venice time)

**Links:**

<http://intra.unive.it/plapps/bandi/common/showcat.pl?categoria=pdrd&descrizione=Ricercatore+Universitario%20a%20tempo%20determinato>

Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, Ca' Foscari University, positions in history of science (11/C2 - M-STO/05) and philosophy of science (11/C2 - M-FIL/02).

The calls in English can be downloaded at the following links:

M-FIL/02 <http://intra.unive.it/plapps/bandi/common/showbando?id=28209>

M-STO/05 <http://intra.unive.it/plapps/bandi/common/showbando?id=28208>

**Research endeavor**

“Institutions and Metaphysics of Cosmology in the Epistemic Networks of Seventeenth-Century Europe”, led by the historian of early modern science, Pietro Daniel Omodeo, is a comparative inquiry of early-modern cosmologies and related scientific debates in their institutional, political, religious and ideological settings. Science is investigated as a contested field of confessional struggles for cultural hegemony, shaped and transformed through its circulation within international scholarly and academic networks. During early Modernity the rise of stabilized institutional networks—such as the northern European universities, Jesuit colleges, and scholarly réseaux gravitating around novel scientific academies—produced the continuous restructuring of scientific communities as well as the redistribution of symbolic credit and social and economic means. This scholarly endeavor aims at an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of epistemic networks and alliances; vice versa, their concrete reconstruction will provide materials for a better understanding of the mechanisms of scientific transactions in general and their cultural-political rootedness. The challenging originality of the project rests both on its overarching scope—thematic, geographical, and geopolitical—and the methodology. It opens up a perspective on the history of science informed by political-epistemological views on the dynamic entanglements of society, culture, and politics. Because this is a comparative enquiry in the political and epistemological history of science, scholars from various backgrounds, such as the cultural history of science, early modern studies, social studies of science, philosophy of science and political epistemology, are welcome to apply.

**Research profile of the candidates**

We seek scholars with a strong research commitment, an outstanding portfolio of international publications, and a proven teaching record in the field associated with the post. The candidates preferably hold a PhD degree in the history of science, institutional history, cultural history, history of philosophy, philosophy of science and related fields.

Preference will be accorded to candidates with a research agenda relevant to at least one of the abovementioned three areas of inquiry.

We look forward to receiving applications from scholars of all nationalities. Preference will be given to applicants who have published substantial contributions to a field of interest to the ERC project.



## **Submission**

The candidates are invited to include the following documents in their application:

- a letter of motivation,
- Curriculum Vitae with list of publications,
- two letters of reference,
- a digital copy of the applicant's PhD thesis in the form of a PDF,
- a research project\*,
- one journal or chapter-length writing sample\*.

(\*) not mandatory

For detailed instructions and additional documentation, needed for administrative reasons, please see the call on the University's official website. Applications should be submitted in English until February 19, 2018, at 12:00 (Venice time); the interviews will also take place in English.

## **Tasks**

The researchers are expected to conduct their research in Venice. They will collaborate with fellow team members toward project goals and develop an original and independent research project within the ERC endeavor.

Further responsibilities include:

- contributing to the research in one of the project areas in a substantial manner,
- co-organizing conferences and editing or co-editing the proceedings,
- helping to tutor PhD students,
- academic teaching (one class per year),
- regularly attending the meetings of the research group,
- contributing to its activities (e.g., workshops, symposia and conference sessions),
- presenting and discussing their research at the meetings of the ERC endeavor.
- contributing to the success of the endeavor with academic publications,
- presenting at international conferences.

## **We offer**

a three-year academic position at a prestigious university in an exceptional cultural setting,  
a unique early career opportunity,  
a unique research experience in the framework of a stimulating international environment.

## **Benefits**

Travel support for research as well as for domestic and international conferences (2-3 per year).

## **Contact information for the application**

For any questions do not hesitate to contact us:

ERC project manager, Silvia Bellacicco: [silvia.bellacicco@unive.it](mailto:silvia.bellacicco@unive.it)

Administrative Secretary (Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage): [ricerca.fbc@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.fbc@unive.it)

For enquiries relative to the administrative procedures: [pdoc.concorsi@unive.it](mailto:pdoc.concorsi@unive.it)

ERC Principal Investigator, Pietro Daniel Omodeo: [pietrodaniel.omodeo@unive.it](mailto:pietrodaniel.omodeo@unive.it)

## **Featured research fellowships: APS and IEEE**

### **American Philosophical Society: Digital Humanities Fellowships**

The Digital Humanities Fellowship, for up to two months, is open to scholars who are comfortable creating tools and visualizations, as well as those interested in working collaboratively with the APS technology team.

Scholars, including graduate students, at any stage of their career may apply. Special consideration will be given to proposals that present APS Library holdings in new and engaging ways. Examples include (but are not limited to) projects that incorporate timelines, text analytics, network graphs, and maps.

Stipend: \$3,000 per month will be awarded to the successful applicant after their arrival at the Library.

All application materials will be submitted online. Applicants must submit:

- Cover letter
- Curriculum vitae
- Prospectus for a digital project
- Examples of previous digital humanities projects (if available)
- Contact information for two people who will submit confidential letters of reference

Full details are available on the application webpage: <https://apply.interfolio.com/46255>.

**Application Deadline: March 2, 2018.** Notifications will be sent by April 15, 2018

### **IEEE History Center at Stevens Institute of Technology**

REMINDER: FELLOWSHIP/INTERNSHIP DEADLINES APPROACHING

#### **DEADLINE 1 MARCH 2018**

Scholars early in their career studying the history of electrical technology and computing are invited to contact the Center to be considered for a paid Internship at the Center's offices on the Stevens Institute of Technology campus in Hoboken, New Jersey, USA. The IEEE History Center, a center for the public history of technology, is cosponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE)—the world's largest professional technical society—and Stevens Institute of Technology

The intern program seeks to provide research experience for graduate students and other young scholars in the history of electrical and computer sciences and technologies and related fields, while enlisting the help of promising young scholars for the Center's projects. The Intern generally works full-time for two months at the History Center on a Center project that is connected to his or her own area of interest.

There is no formal application form. To apply, please mail curriculum vitae showing your studies in electrical history, a three- to five-page page (single or double spaced) writing sample, along with a cover letter describing the sort of project you would be interested in doing (see contact information below). The deadline for contacting the IEEE History Center is 1 March 2018. More

details and contact information can be found at  
[https://www.ieee.org/about/history\\_center/internship.html](https://www.ieee.org/about/history_center/internship.html)

## **VII. Join ICOHTEC**

An ICOHTEC membership makes you a member of the scholarly network of the UNESCO-based International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC.

The membership includes:

- Reduced fees for ICOHTEC's conferences
- ICOHTEC's reviewed journal ICON (published annually, ca. 200 pages)
- Electronic access to back issues of ICON (published since 1995)
- ICOHTEC's electronic Newsletter (published monthly – available via mailing list and on the homepage)

Please share this form with a colleague who is not yet a member or ask your library to subscribe



**Form for annual membership renewals / registration of new members**

**Annual membership includes subscription to ICOHTEC's refereed annual journal ICON, access to all back issues of ICON in electronic form via the ICOHTEC website, a monthly Newsletter, and special registration rates at the annual ICOHTEC symposium.**

I wish to renew my membership / to become a new member in ICOHTEC. (Tick below the appropriate description/rate):

- ☐ An individual. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent) per year
- ☐ A student. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent for two years)
- ☐ An institution. Rate: (100 \$ or 75 € or equivalent) per year
- ☐ A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €, Overseas 39 € or 52 \$) per year

Tick the years of membership to be paid: ☐ 2014 ☐ 2015 ☐ 2016 ☐ 2017 ☐ 2018

I submit the total amount: \_\_\_\_\_ €/ \$

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Tick the method of your payment:

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IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

- ☐ Through a cheque. Send the check with the appropriate sum made out to “ICOHTEC” and send to: Turku School of Economics, Rehtorinpellonkatu 3, Room 313, 20 014 Turku University, FINLAND

**After filling the form, please scan and send by email to Prof. Timo Myllyntaus, ICOHTEC Treasurer at [timmyl@utu.fi](mailto:timmyl@utu.fi) . Your filled form will facilitate sending ICONs and allocating access privileges.**